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NEW BOOKS

BALLOD, C. *Grundriss der Statistik: Bevölkerungs- Wirtschafts- Finanz- und Handels-Statistik.* (Berlin: Guttentag. 1913. Pp. vii, 348. 10 m.)

CONRAD, J. *Grundriss zum Studium der politischen Oekonomie.* Vol. IV. *Statistik.* Part II. *Die Statistik der wirtschaftlichen Kultur: Berufsstatistik, Agrarstatistik, Forst- und Montanstatistik.* Second edition. (Jena: Fischer. 1913. Pp. ix, 273. 6.50 m.)

RICCI, U. *Statistique internationale des états des cultures.* (La Haye: Société Anonyme "Drukkerij Trio". 1913. Pp. 92.)

Professor Ricci is chief statistician of the International Institute of Agriculture, and has been impressed by the chaotic condition of agricultural statistics as now reported. Especially difficult of comparison are these statistics since unlike expressions are used for designating the same conditions and again identical expressions are used to designate conditions which are unlike.

It is proposed by the author to create a table into which the reported data may be fitted in such manner as to permit the summation of terms both horizontally and vertically. The horizontal sum will give the average acreages for a given country for a period of ten years, the estimated acreages of the current year to be given in the form of a percentage of the ten-year average. In a separate table the same thing will be done for reported yields per acre, and the two combined into a table showing total estimated production. This final table will be called an *indice unitaire*.

In addition to the exposition of the plan proposed there is given an analysis of the present systems of reporting the condition of crops. The systems used are designated by the terms "valuation" and "classification." By the system of valuation the report is in such shape as to express the yield in its mathematical relation to an assumed base. In the system of classification the scale used consists of words such as *poor, fair, good, etc.*, and an exact mathematical deduction is hard to draw. The "valuation" system is preferable.

It is believed that a report based on the known results of the ten preceding years and corrected from month to month during the growing season will result in information which will preclude the probability of artificial prices. Conceted action on the part of the different countries will be necessary in order to carry this plan into effect.

B. H. HIBBARD.

— *Statistics for Hawaii. Containing statistics of population, agriculture, and manufactures for the territory, counties, and cities.* (Washington: Dept. of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. 1913. Pp. 57.)

— *Statistics for Porto Rico. Containing statistics of population, agriculture, and manufactures for the territory, municipalities and cities.* (Washington: Dept. of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. 1913. Pp. 91.)

— *Year-book of the city of Buenos Aires.* (Buenos Aires: Statistical Dept. 1913. Pp. xlvi, 460.)